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Title:

Comments: I am writing in regard to the July 21 Draft EIS. My comments are as follows:

1. Although not often in agreement with President Biden, I fully support his Executive Order 14072 which, finally, attempts to give protection to our older forests from the bad management process of intensive timber harvesting. This order applies, I believe, to our Hoosier National Forest on which big timber cuts, burns, etc are now proposed or in process by the Forest Service in our few remaining old growth areas.
2. I want the Forest Service to protect our older growth areas, not target them for harvesting. These forests have developed more species diversity and provide homes for birds, animals and plants that need older forests to nest and survive. Cerulean warblers are one example.
3. Proposed cuts in the Hoosier National Forest should be halted until plans conform to Executive Order 14072 and any new plans should manage our forest to keep old growth intact and allow it to flourish naturally without the aid of any pseudo "forest health" type timber cutting justifications.

We are lucky to have some older forest areas and I do not want to see them altered or cut down.

Thank you.

Mark Ristow